TL 398

REPUBLICA DE CABO VERDE
MISSÃO PERMANENTE JUNTO AS NAÇÕES UNIDAS

REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR JOSE LUIS JESUS, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON THE QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR (COMMITTEE OF 24)

MR CHAIRMAN

ON BEHALF OF ANGOLA, GUINE-BISSAU, MOZAMBIQUE, S. TOME AND PRINCIPE AND CAPE VERDE, I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR.

MR. CHAIRMAN

OUR COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES HAVE STRONG HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL BONDS WITH THE EAST TIMORESE PEOPLE, AS MEMBERS OF THE SAME FAMILY, IT HAS BEEN PARICULARLY PAINFUL FOR US TO WITNESS THE HARDSHIP AND ALL SORTS OF INDIGNITIES THAT THE MAUBERE PEOPLE HAS BEEN GOING THROUGH UNDER THE YOKE OF THE INDONESIAN OCCUPATION.

THE PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTS ABUNDANTLY THE CONTINUATION OF ABUSES AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE EAST TIMOR PEOPLE PERPETRATED BY THE OCCUPYING FORCES OF INDONESIA.

THESE ABUSES AND VIOLATIONS SHOULD BE CONDEMNED BY THIS COMMITTEE AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AT LARGE AND SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO AN END. IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD LIKE TO PLACE ON RECORD OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE VERY COMMENDABLE WORK BEING DONE BY VARIOUS NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PRIVATE GROUPS TO DENOUNCE HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN EAST TIMOR. THE REFUSAL TO ALLOW AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS INTO THE TERRITORY IS IN ITSELF A CLEAR DEMONSTRATION OF THESE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.

AT A TIME WHEN HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES ARE, AND RIGHTLY SO, BEING GIVEN PROMINENCE ON THE UNITED NATIONS AGENDA, WE CAN ONLY EXPECT THAT ALL COUNTRIES CONDEMN THE HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN EAST TIMOR AND BRING TO BEAR THEIR PRESSURE UPON INDONESIA TO STOP THESE ABUSES.

MR. CHAIRMAN

THE INVASION AND SUBSEQUENT OCCUPATION OF EAST TIMOR BY INDONESIA IS A CLEAR AND BLATANT CASE OF COLONIALISM. THE SITUATION PREVAILING IN EAST TIMOR IS AS A COLO-

COLONIAL SITUATION

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NIAL SITUATION AS ANY OTHER THAT EXISTED IN THE PAST. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT IN THE CASE OF EAST TIMOR IT BECAME AN INDONESIAN COLONY UNDER THE NAKED EYES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE TOTAL DISREGARD FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF ITS CHARTER, THAT ALL OF US THOUGHT TO BE SACRED.

A COLONIAL OCCUPATION AS BLATANT AS THIS ONE, CERTAINLY COULD NOT PASS WITHOUT CONDEMNATION BY THE MAJORITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. PAST DELIBERATIONS ON THE QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR IN THIS COMMITTEE AND IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAVE MET WITH THE CONDEMNATION OF THE INVASION, BUT HAVE STOPPED SHORT OF PUTTING ENOUGH PRESSURE ON INDONESIA TO ACCEPT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

WE BELIEVE THAT RENEWED EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TOWARDS THAT END. IN THIS REGARD, IT IS OUR VIEW THAT COUNTRIES THAT BEAR SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN HELPING TO FIND A UNITED NATIONS SOLUTION FOR THE EAST TIMOR SITUATION. IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR THESE COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF A NEW WORLD ORDER, TO CONVINCE THE WORLD OF THEIR SERIOUSNESS IN ENSURING THAT THE PRINCIPLES AND NORMS OF THE CHARTER ARE RESPECTED AND UPHELD BY ALL NATIONS, IF THEY THEMSELVES TURN A BLIND EYE TO THE COLONIAL SITUATION OF EAST TIMOR.

FOR MANY YEARS NOW, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITH A MANDATE "TO EXPLORE AVENUES" WITH A VIEW TO FINDING A POLITICAL SOLUTION FOR EAST TIMOR. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS EXERTED A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT IN ATTEMPTING TO DISCHARGE HIS MANDATE. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO HIM.

INSPIRED BY HIS SUCCESSFUL HANDLING OF THE MOST RECENT CASES OF NAMIBIA AND WESTERN SAHARA, WE URGE HIM TO MAKE OF THE POLITICAL

SETTLEMENT OF THE QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR ANOTHER UNITED NATIONS SUCCESS STORY. WE BELIEVE, NOW MORE THAN EVER, THAT THE CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE TO A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE EAST TIMOR SITUATION. WE PLEDGE HIM OUR FULL COOPERATION IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

OVER THE LAST ONE YEAR OR SO THE PERMANENT FIVE, ACTING IN HARMONY, HAVE PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROMOTING THE SOLUTION OF VEXING PROBLEMS. AS A RESULT A NEW IMPETUS HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE WORK OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND A RENEWED FAITH HAS EMERGED IN THE UNITED NATIONS, AS AN ORGANIZATION WHERE WRONG CAN BE REDDRESSED AND JUSTICE CAN BE MADE.

WE BELIEVE THAT THIS NEW IMAGE OF THE PERMANENT FIVE AS A CATALYST IN PROMOTING UNITED NATIONS SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY STRENGTHENED IF IN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL, THEY WERE TO TABLE CERTAIN INITIATIVES TO SETTLE, PEACEFULLY, THE EAST TIMOR SITUATION.

IN THE NAME OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND POLITICAL FREEDOM AND IN THE DEFENSE OF MAJOR CHARTER PRINCIPLES THAT WE ALL CHERISH AND UPHOLD, WE URGE THEM TO PROVIDE UNITED NATIONS LEADERSHIP IN FINDING A FREE FAIR AND JUST SOLUTION TO THE EAST TIMOR CONFLICT.

MR. CHAIRMAN

IT IS OUR SINCERE HOPE THAT BY THE TIME WE MEET IN THIS COMMITTEE NEXT YEAR THE EFFORTS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO SOLVE THIS ISSUE WILL HAVE PRODUCED SOME NEW IDEAS AND " AVENUES". AFTER ALL THE EAST TIMOR SOLUTION CAN HEAVILY DRAW ON THE "AVENUE" SUCCESSFULLY FOUND FOR THE UNITED NATIONS SOLUTION ON WESTERN SAHARA.

I THANK YOU